

**10/579004**

**AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 MAY 2006**

**Express Mail Label No. EV749535416US  
PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Douglas R. McPherson

**Application No.:** Not Yet Known

**Filed:** Not Yet Known

**For:** SHAPED SLOT VACUUM  
DEWATERING BOX COVER

**Group:** Not Yet Known

**Examiner:** Not Yet Known

**Our File:** AJE-2.209.1US

**Date:** May 11, 2006

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

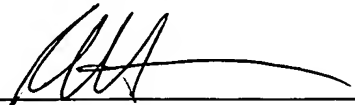
This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted in order to incorporate the Article 34 Amendment replacement pages, as annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report, into the application.

**Applicant:** Douglas R. McPherson  
**Application No.:** Not Yet Known

Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas R. McPherson

By   
Randolph J. Huis  
Registration No. 34,626  
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.  
United Plaza, Suite 1600  
30 South 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RJH/dmm